

Appl. No. 09/837,020  
 Amdt. Dated September 23, 2003  
 Reply to Office Action of August 15, 2003

PATENT APPLICATION

*entry approved on 10/2/03*  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*entry approved on 10/2/03*  
**Group**  
**Art Unit:** 3643

**Attorney**  
**Docket No.:** 121056-009 (new)

**Applicant:** Yasushi KOHNO et al.

**Invention:** METHOD OF PREVENTING DEFECTIVE  
 GERMINATION OR GROWTH OF PLANT

**Serial No.:** 09/837,020

**Filed:** April 18, 2001

**Examiner:** Andrea Valenti

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION**  
**EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUESTED**

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8()

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile transmission on the date indicated below.

on September 23, 2003

*Michael S. Gzybowski*  
 Michael S. Gzybowski

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

*entry approved on 10/2/03*  
 Commissioner of Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed August 15, 2003 in connection with the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.